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adjoining Shencottah taluk and restricted the issues of liquor to the State shops on the border of Tenkasi taluk which has led to a reduced consumption in these shops. The Commissioner considers that the full effect of these steps should be watched for a further period before the question of abandoning the experiment is considered and accordingly recommends that the experiment may be continued for a further period of two years within the limit of private possession of arrack reduced to two drams in the taluk.

In the Attur taluk there is no F.L. 2 shop and the experiment has had no effect on toddy consumption in the taluk nor on arrack consumption in the adjoining taluks. The number of cases reported under illicit distillation and kindred offences has however substantially increased in the taluk. Six such cases were detected in the first half of the current year against sixteen during 1925-26, eight in 1924–25, one in 1922–23 and none in 1921–22. Fifteen gallons of wash were seized in one case in October 1926 very near Attur. Illicit distillation crime shows a marked increase in the adjoining Rasipur taluk and it is reported that illicitly distilled liquor from this taluk and from Uttankarai taluk is being taken to the dry area. The Assistant Commissioner reports that the people in the locality have personally complained to him about the closure of the shops and considers that the experiment should be abandoned. The Collector agrees with him. The Commissioner, however, would point out that consequent on the formation of an additional circle from 1st May 1926 in the Salem district, the Inspector, Salem circle, has a smaller area to control and should be able to cope effectively with illicit distillation crime in the dry area. The Commissioner would therefore recommend that the experiment may be continued for a further period of two years with a reduced limit of two drams for the possession of arrack without a licence as in the other four taluks in which the experiment is now carried on.

APPENDIX II

[Vide "Communication to the Council" at page 165 supra.]

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

NOTE.

With reference to the answer given to question No. 22 asked by M.R.Ry. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar Avargal at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th January 1927, the Government have ascertained that Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies did not do any super audit work during the quarter ending 31st December 1925. The term 'super audit' is understood to mean a separate and complete audit made at longer intervals than the original annual audit—vide paragraph 93 of the Report of the Committee on Co-operation in India, 1915.

26th February 1927. V. PANDRANG ROW.